



# GLOBAL MINISTRIES COMMISSION

of the Evangelical Congregational Church

Empowering National Churches • Facilitating Mission Workers • Ministering to the Marginalized

## Chris and Deb Bowers

Serving with Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea



### Being prepared by God

Chris was born into a Christian family and grew up in Allentown, PA. With an early interest in aviation, and a small push from God through a friend, he began thinking about a career as a missionary pilot. After two years at Moody Bible Institute, followed by another three years training at Moody Aviation in Tennessee, Chris joined Wycliffe Bible Translators in 2004, and headed to Papua New Guinea as a missionary pilot at the end of that year.



Deb spent all her elementary years living in Papua New Guinea as she watched her parents putting their faith into action through their service with Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF). Even as a child, Deb knew that whatever she did, she wanted to be working to help people come to know Jesus. To this end, she completed a teaching degree, worked in Christian Outdoor Education Outreach in Scotland for two years, and eventually attended Bible College in Sydney, Australia, before joining Wycliffe Bible Translators in 2006.

Chris and Deb met in Papua New Guinea in 2006, and were married, April 4<sup>th</sup> 2009, in Australia.

### Getting involved in God's work

Chris enjoys flying airplanes, but even more than that he enjoys who he is privileged to fly. Most of the daily passengers are missionaries working with Wycliffe Bible translators, who rely on aviation to take them into remote villages, where there are no other means of transportation.

Deb loves the opportunities she has to minister to the children and their parents through teaching PE and Health classes, coaching sports, mentoring at youth camps, and discipleship with teenage girls. She looks forward to taking on the additional role of teaching middle school Science.

Through their contact with a group of people in the Wagi language, Chris and Deb have been able to facilitate an independent translation project with three Wagi men, Dagantin, Selwin, and Rex. It has been exciting to see the enthusiasm and dedication of these men, and it has been a privilege to be able to help them with resources, access to computers, financial support, and training through Wycliffe programs designed to enable local people to learn the skills they need to translate God's Word.

## Partnering with EC

The partnership of the EC Church through Global Ministries Commission has played a vital role in enabling Chris (and now both Chris and Deb) to be involved in God's work in Papua New Guinea. You are a blessing and encouragement and a witness of God's presence among you shown in your love for the wider family of God all over the world.

"I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now..." Philippians 1:3-5